

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-9. (Canceled)

Claim 10. (Currently Amended) A method for tracking purchases of electronic books, comprising:

storing identifications of a plurality of electronic books for display on a viewer in a repository accessible by a processor;

associating via the processor each [[for]] of the electronic books with a source of the electronic book;

providing via a user interface functioning via the processor the electronic books for purchase by subscribers;

recording an indication of purchases of the electronic books in the repository; and

associating via the processor an amount of each purchase with the source for the corresponding electronic book.

Claim 11. (Original) The method of claim 10 wherein the associating step includes associating the amount with a publisher for the corresponding electronic book.

Claim 12. (Original) The method of claim 10 wherein the providing step includes electronically communicating with a viewer for use in receiving requests to purchase the electronic books.

Claim 13. (Original) The method of claim 10, further including charging a subscriber account for the purchases.

Claim 14. (Original) The method of claim 10, further including generating a bill to one of the subscribers for the purchases.

Claim 15. (Currently Amended) A method for providing on-line accounts for purchases of electronic books, comprising:

storing identifications of a plurality of electronic books on a viewer in a repository accessible by a processor;

providing the electronic books for purchase by subscribers at a user interface functioning via the processor;

maintaining on-line accounts for the subscribers in the repository;

recording via the processor an indication of purchases of the electronic books in the corresponding accounts;

associating via the processor an amount of each purchase with the source for the corresponding electronic book; and

permitting each of the subscribers to access a corresponding one of the on-line accounts for the subscriber at a user interface functioning via the processor.

Claim 16. (Original) The method of claim 15, further including providing on-line access to a customer service representative for the on-line accounts.

Claim 17. (Original) The method of claim 15 wherein the providing step includes electronically communicating with a viewer for use in receiving requests to purchase the electronic books.

Claim 18. (Original) The method of claim 15, further including charging one of the accounts for the purchases.

Claim 19. (Original) The method of claim 15, further including generating a bill to one of the subscribers for the purchases.

Claim 20. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for providing electronic books for purchase, comprising:

 a billing and collection system for electronically communicating with a viewer for providing electronic books for purchase, wherein the billing and collection system executes a method comprising:

 storing identifications of a plurality of electronic books for display on the viewer;

 associating each of the electronic books with a source of the electronic book;

 providing the electronic books for purchase by subscribers;

 recording an indication of purchases of the electronic books; and

 associating an amount of each purchase with the source for the corresponding electronic book.

Claim 21. (Original) The apparatus of claim 20 wherein the associating step includes associating the amount with a publisher for the corresponding electronic book.

Claim 22. (Original) The apparatus of claim 20 wherein the providing step includes electronically communicating with a viewer for use in receiving requests to purchase the electronic books.

Claim 23. (Original) The apparatus of claim 20, further including charging a subscriber account for the purchases

Claim 24. (Original) The apparatus of claim 20, further including generating a bill to one of the subscribers for the purchases.

Claim 25. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for providing electronic books for purchase comprising:

a billing and collection system for electronically communicating with a viewer for providing electronic books for purchase, wherein the billing and collection system executes a method comprising:

storing identifications of a plurality of electronic books on a viewer;

providing the electronic books for purchase by subscribers;

maintaining on-line accounts for the subscribers;

recording an indication of purchases of the electronic books in the corresponding accounts;

associating an amount of each purchase with the source for the corresponding electronic book; and

permitting each of the subscribers to access a corresponding one of the on-line accounts for the subscriber.

Claim 26. (Original) The apparatus of claim 25, further including providing on-line access to a customer service representative for the on-line accounts.

Claim 27. (Original) The apparatus of claim 25 wherein the providing step includes electronically communicating with a viewer for use in receiving requests to purchase the electronic books.

Claim 28. (Original) The apparatus of claim 25, further including charging one of the accounts for the purchases.

Claim 29. (Original) The apparatus of claim 25, further including generating a bill to one of the subscribers for the purchases.